

# **IOWA BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

## **PRESS RELEASE**

**For release, December 2, 2003**

Recently, the Iowa Board of Medical Examiners took the following action:

**Shantikumar S. Avhad, M.D.**, a 53 year-old physician formerly practicing dermatology in Iowa, entered into a Settlement Agreement with the Board to resolve pending disciplinary charges against his Iowa medical license. Dr. Avhad was charged with providing inappropriate dermatological care and treatment to at least ten patients. Dr. Avhad currently suffers from a medical condition which prevents him from practicing medicine after suffering multiple strokes following a heart attack on September 25, 2002. Under the terms of the Settlement Agreement, Dr. Avhad agrees not to practice medicine unless his Iowa medical license is reactivated by the Board.

**Sharon S. Hutchins, D.O.**, a 50 year-old physician from Polk City, Iowa, entered into a combined Statement of Charges and Settlement Agreement with the Board to resolve a pending disciplinary investigation. Dr. Hutchins was convicted of criminal charges in Missouri for diverting numerous controlled drugs for her own use. Dr. Hutchins was disciplined by the Missouri Medical Board for diverting drugs and for drug abuse. Under the terms of the Settlement Agreement, Dr. Hutchins' Iowa medical license was suspended for 270 days, she was ordered to pay a \$10,000 fine and her Iowa medical license was placed on indefinite probation subject to certain terms and conditions due to substance abuse.

**Zhong Ye, M.D.**, a 43 year-old physician formerly practicing dermatology in Keokuk, Iowa, entered into a Settlement Agreement with the Board to resolve pending disciplinary charges against his Iowa medical license. Dr. Ye was charged with providing inappropriate dermatological care and treatment to at least five patients. Under the terms of the Settlement Agreement, Dr. Ye was issued a Citation and Warning due to concerns regarding his record keeping and dermatological patient care, ordered to pay a \$1,000 fine, required to obtain forty (40) hours of continuing medical education in dermatology and is subject to random audits of his medical practice over the next two years.